We're hiring: Communications & Advocacy Intern

July 2023

Introduction and overview

The Education Outcomes Fund (EOF) is dedicated to improving education and employment outcomes for children and youth globally. Our small but mighty team is working at the cutting edge of development finance, leveraging our platform at the UN and our innovative, results-focused approach to change the way education is financed to support the next generation of youth.

EOF is looking for an exceptional intern to support EOF’s communications team. If you are an outstanding problem solver, passionate about improving education and employment outcomes for children and youth and looking for a challenge in a fast-paced, entrepreneurial environment, we would love to hear from you.

Please apply through UNICEF’s career portal by Monday 24 July.

About the Education Outcomes Fund

There are few greater challenges faced by the global community than the twin crises of learning poverty and youth unemployment. In response, the Education Commission (chaired by Gordon Brown, former UK Prime Minister and UN Special Envoy for Global Education) and the Global Steering Group for Impact Investment (chaired by Sir Ronald Cohen) came together with our founding CEO (Her Excellency Dr.) Amel Karboul to create EOF. We aim to improve the education and employment outcomes of 10 million children and youth, by supporting governments to utilize a range of innovative finance instruments at scale, including outcomes funds and other results-based financing (RBF) instruments.

EOF is backed by a range of world leaders who support us to shape our approach and achieve our ambitious aims, as well as leaders in education and impact investing:
EOF supports improvements in the quality of education and skills programs, with a special focus on girls and underserved populations, including those in the hardest to reach rural areas. It measures (and pays for) what matters – both core skills like literacy and numeracy, but also critical 21st Century skills such as socio-emotional skills, ICT skills, and other broader fundamentals of a quality education. It helps close the persistent gap between the skills needed by employers and those attained by today's youth.

For all the above, EOF pays primarily on the basis of the results achieved, ensuring that taxpayer-funded domestic resources, aid, and philanthropic funds are only used to pay for what works. This is a game-changing way to finance results in education, focusing attention and realigning systems on the most challenging but most important measure of a program's performance: whether it is improving lives.

Together with our supporters, we believe this is the early stages of a much larger movement, with huge potential to increase learning outcomes for children and youth around the world, though improved aid effectiveness and government spending.

Since our inception in 2018, EOF has:

- Partnered with governments in Ghana and Sierra Leone to establish the two largest outcomes funds to date in developing countries, mobilising ~$50M for these programs.
- Established itself as a leading global player in RBF, and the only dedicated center of expertise for RBF in education and skills.
- Become the first outcomes fund hosted by the United Nations within UNICEF, as a scalable platform to partner with governments around the world.
- Established a major partnership with the LEGO Foundation, to develop a scale portfolio of RBF programs in early childhood across a diverse range of countries, as well as to amplify the movement and ecosystem of partners around this approach.
- Built our institutional capacity to contract and implement large-scale outcomes funds more efficiently and effectively than historic impact bonds.
- Established a strong culture of performance and an active focus on ongoing professional development for all our team.
Endorsements:

"EOF has changed the way the education sector talks about RBF"
- David Sengeh, Minister for Education in Sierra Leone and GPE board member.

"... I would invest in the Education Outcomes Fund, which is an emerging player in the global landscape, and is showing what can be done with results-based approaches. That needs GPE doing Systems work but is a way of accelerating and modelling change that can be picked up by the system overall."
- Julia Gillard, former GPE Board Chair and former Australian Prime Minister

"The pay for performance revolution is coming to the education sector"
- Devex on EOF

The next chapter of EOF’s growth is particularly exciting, as we look to build on this foundation in the coming years. We will shift focus towards implementation of our first large scale programs, developing public goods and policy insights on ‘what works’ both in education and RBF. We will develop new RBF models that can be replicated and scaled across regions, as well as continuing to roll out our existing models. Ultimately, we want to improve the way governments and donors fund and implement education programs around the world.

The opportunity

We are seeking to recruit a high calibre intern to support EOF’s communications and advocacy team with all aspects of our external communications.

The Communications & Advocacy Intern will report directly to the Head of Communications. You will also collaborate with all members of the EOF team.

Responsibilities will include, but not be limited to, the following -

- Develop external communications material, including articles, website content, and social media content, showcasing EOF, and driving reach and engagement.
- Provide editorial support through proofreading external communications assets produced across EOF teams.
- Provide logistical support for in-person and virtual EOF events and convenings. This includes external communications, event preparation and execution.
- Support the communications team to build relationships with peer organizations and potential partners through, for example, participating in calls and webinars and managing key communications with external parties.
- Advance the communications team's internal co-ordination of cross-team projects and tasks through regular engagement with colleagues in other EOF teams.
- Write proposals and prepare pitch materials to promote EOF to potential partners and fundraising prospects. This could include, for example, narrative on the broader innovative finance eco-system and where EOF fits in.
- Prepare supporting materials to be presented at quarterly governance meetings with our board and our Communications and Advocacy sub-committee.

If you want to contribute to a rapidly growing organisation, with an exciting mission, opportunities for a high level of responsibility and growth, and to become part of a strong team with a culture of growth and professional development, then EOF could be the place for you.
About you

We'd love to hear from you if the following sounds like you:

**Essential:**
- Enrolled in a degree programme in an undergraduate or graduate school, or a recent graduate (within the last 2 years).
- Excellent academic performance as demonstrated by recent university or institution records.
- Excellent written skills. You can convey complex ideas clearly and engagingly and you can adjust your style to reach a variety of different audiences.
- At least 18 years old.
- Fluency in English is required.
- No immediate relatives (e.g., father, mother, brother, sister) working in any UNICEF office; and have no other relatives in the line of authority that the intern will report to.

**Desirable:**
- Ability to thrive in a high-energy, fast-paced and entrepreneurial organization. Start-up experience would be an advantage.
- Ability to manage a high workload in a fast-paced environment, with strong attention to detail and a high bar for quality; manage concurrent timelines, independently prioritize tasks and work.
- Additional consideration will be given for any relevant communications and/or advocacy experience. Experience implementing communications strategies in a complex or international environment, and experience with digital channels and web design is desirable.
- A degree in a relevant subject, such as communications, international development, political science, education, or a related field, would be preferred.
- Experience or an interest in international development, the global education sector, and international aid is desirable.
- Proficiency in French, Spanish or Arabic is desirable.

**Key competencies**

We expect you to have the following skills and competencies:

- **Exceptional problem-solving skills:** You are intellectually dexterous, able to pull insights from complex information, and recommend action based on these insights.
- **Clear and confident communication skills:** You are comfortable communicating with a range of stakeholders and can adapt your style according to the audience.
- **Drive to achieve results:** You take responsibility for and ownership of your performance and are proactive in finding solutions to problems.
- **Proactive approach to work:** You proactively find ways to assist the wider team. When you see things that could be improved, you put your hand up and help improve it, rather than being a passive bystander.
- **Work collaboratively with others:** You enjoy contributing to a wider team effort and collaborating with people from different backgrounds to achieve your goals, respecting differences and ensuring that all can contribute and succeed.
- **Embrace change and uncertainty:** You understand that our work is complex and dynamic, and respond to shifting priorities with composure and agility.
- **Demonstrate self-awareness and ethical awareness:** You are self-aware of your own strengths, limitations, working style, and deeply held convictions and biases. You display ethical awareness through behaviours that are consistent and compliant with the standards of conduct for international civil servants, UNICEF's values, and relevant UNICEF policies and procedures.
General information

- We have a global mandate and a global team, with staff based across most continents. However, most of our team are London-based, and candidates may need to be available during a significant portion of UK working hours (to be determined on a case-by-case basis). Remote and hybrid working options will be considered. Please note that EOF cannot currently sponsor interns to work in the UK.
- A stipend will be provided for the duration of the internship, which will be determined based on the location of the successful candidate.
- The internship is expected to start on Monday 04 September 2023 and finish on Friday 01 March 2024. Please note that candidates who cannot commit to a six-month internship, working full-time, cannot be considered for the positions.
- This is not a typical 9-5 job and there will be occasions where interns are asked to work outside of their usual working hours, subject to programme needs. At the same time, we aim to offer a flexible working arrangement to our team and interns can discuss their preferred working pattern and location with their line manager.

Application process:

- The assessment process for shortlisted candidates will involve a written test and two rounds of interviews and is expected to run across July and August.

Unfortunately, due to the potentially large number of applications, we will only be able to contact applicants who are invited to the next stage of the process and will not be able to provide feedback to candidates that are not shortlisted.

**EOF has a zero-tolerance policy** on conduct that is incompatible with the aims and objectives of the United Nations, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination. EOF also adheres to strict child safeguarding principles. All selected candidates will be expected to adhere to these standards and principles and will therefore undergo rigorous reference and background checks. Background checks will include the verification of academic credential(s) and employment history. Selected candidates may be required to provide additional information to conduct a background check.